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For Immediate Release

June 10, 2016

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A Travis County Grand Jury has indicted Meechaiel Criner for the capital murder of Haruka Weiser. Because Criner was 17 years old at the time of the offense, the State is unable to seek the death penalty. The United States Supreme Court has ruled that it is unconstitutional to impose the death penalty on a defendant who committed a capital offense while under the age of 18.

Under Texas law, if a defendant commits a capital offense when he was younger than 18 years of age, the trial court cannot sentence him to life without parole; rather, the trial court is mandated to sentence the defendant to life with the possibility of parole. The defendant must serve a minimum of 40 years in prison.

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